

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 /037 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:ROBER:JES

APPROVED BY NEA:ADUBS

NEA/INS:DKUX

NEA/PAB:RPECK

----- 123310

R 032235Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DACCA

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN DCM BRIEFED ON ADMIRAL KHAN'S RECENT VISIT

1. NEA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS TOOK OCCASION DURING A MEETING WITH INDIAN DCM VENKATESWARAN AUGUST 3 TO DISCUSS BANGLADESH DEPUTY CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR ADMIRAL KHAN'S VISIT TO THE DEPARTMENT JULY 2. WHILE NOTING THE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH ASIA IN RECENT MONTHS, DUBS LET THE DCM KNOW THAT ADMIRAL KHAN HAD EXPRESSED DURING HIS TALKS BANGLADESH'S CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT THE FARAKKA BARRAGE AND THE BORDER INCIDENTS. DUBS STRESSED THAT IT WAS THE USG'S HOPE THAT THESE PROBLEMS COULD BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY ON A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE BASIS, THUS ADVANCING REGIONAL STABILITY WHICH IS A DEVELOPMENT USG FULLY SUPPORTS.
 2. THE INDIAN DCM REPLIED BY SAYING HE HAD HEARD REPORTS THAT ADMIRAL KHAN HAD SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR U.S. ARMS, INCLUDING HELICOPTERS. IN RESPONSE DUBS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SUBJECT OF ARMS HAD COME UP BUT NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN
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TAKEN AND IT WAS LEFT THAT THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT WOULD

PROVIDE SPECIFIC REQUESTS. DUBS INDICATED THAT THE SUBJECT
OF HELICOPTERS AROSE DURING KHAN'S VISIT IN THE CONTEXT OF
A DISCUSSION OF BANGLADESH NEEDS TO DEAL WITH THE RIVER
FLOODING WHICH HAS SINCE ABATED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE192288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ROBER:JES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760299-1073
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760890/aaaadbkt.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN DCM BRIEFED ON ADMIRAL KHAN'S RECENT VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, (KHAN)
To: DACCA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006